



U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

# Yucca Mountain Schedule and Path Forward

Presented to:

**National Spent Nuclear Fuel Program Strategy Meeting**

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**YUCCA  
MOUNTAIN  
PROJECT**

# Presentation Outline

- **Site Recommendation (SR) Development**
- **License Application (LA) Development**
- **10 CFR Part 63 Status**
- **10 CFR Part 963 Status**
- **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Status**

# Site Recommendation Development

- **Site Recommendation Consideration Report scheduled to be issued December 2000**
  - Comments to be incorporated in SR Volume 3
- **Site Recommendation scheduled to be issued July 2001**
  - Currently evaluating strategies to address Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board issues associated with uncertainty

# License Application Development

- **Less funding than requested for Fiscal Year 2001 will result in a delay from the 3/02 LA date**
- **Current project focus is on SR and the LA date will be replanned after final scope of necessary SR support is known**
- **LA will be developed through an iterative process**
  - **The Technical Guidance Document (TGD) will guide LA format and content**
    - ◆ **Revision 1 completed September 1999**
    - ◆ **Revision 2 planned for May 2001 (dependent on issuance of 10CFR63 and Yucca Mountain Review Plan)**

# **NRC Proposed Rule 10 CFR Part 63**

## **“Disposal of High-level Radioactive Waste in a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada”**

- **NRC published the proposed rule for comment in February 1999; comment period closed June 30, 1999**
- **Draft final rule submitted by staff to Commission in Spring 2000 along with part of Yucca Mountain Review Plan (YMRP)**
- **Commission returned YMRP to staff for revision and has not yet released a final rule**

# **NRC Proposed Rule 10 CFR Part 63**

## **“Disposal of High-level Radioactive Waste in a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada”**

(Continued)

- **DOE supports the general approach reflected in the proposed rule**
- **NRC will amend its rule, as necessary, when EPA’s proposed “Environmental Radiation Protection Standards for Yucca Mountain Nevada” are finalized**

# **DOE Proposed Rule 10 CFR Part 963**

## **“Yucca Mountain Site Suitability Guidelines”**

- **DOE published proposed rule for comment in November 1999; comment period closed February 28, 2000**
- **Revises December 1996 proposal to amend 10 CFR Part 960, “General Guidelines for the Recommendation of Sites for Nuclear Waste Repositories” issued in 1984**
- **Proposal presents the criteria and methodologies for assessing the performance of a potential Yucca Mountain repository in meeting preclosure and postclosure applicable radiation protection standards**

# Environmental Impact Statement

- **Nuclear Waste Policy Act requires a final EIS to accompany the SR to the President, if the Secretary decides to recommend the site for development as a repository**
- **Draft EIS issued in July 1999**
- **Public comment period from July 1999 through February 2000**
  - **21 hearings held with 10 in Nevada**
  - **Comments being analyzed with responses to be documented in the final EIS**



# Summary

- **One integrated technical program supports regulatory milestones (EIS, SR, LA)**
- **Integrated LA development schedule**
  - **LA sections will be prepared and reviewed as technical input becomes available**
- **Regulations of NRC, EPA, and DOE are not final**